

Application NO: 09/750,494
Attorney Docket No. AX-001-US
Friedman et al.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (amended) A data processing system for analyzing billing indices regarding billed telecommunications items comprising:

data input means for receiving the telecommunications bills provided from a vendor to a consumer;

means for storing a database of the consumer's pre-determined billing indices;

a processor including:

means for comparing the billed indices from the telecommunications bill against ~~of the~~ pre-determined indices,

means for identifying billing discrepancies between the billed indices and the pre-determined indices, and

means for generating deprovision requests and billing disputes based upon the billing discrepancies; and

data output means for transmitting the deprovision requests and the billing disputes to the vendor.

2. (original) The system recited in claim 1, wherein the processor further includes means for determining and correcting errors in the database of pre-determined billing indices.

3. (original) The system recited in claim 1, wherein the processor further includes means for identifying installed telecommunication components that are not included as the billed telecommunication items and for accruing the un-included installed telecommunication components.

4. (amended) A method for analyzing billing items in telecommunications bills received by a consumer from a vendor, comprising the steps of:

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extracting data corresponding to billing item components, billing item rates and billing item quantities from the telecommunication bills;

identifying non-existent billing item components in the telecommunication bills by comparing the billing item components in the telecommunication bills to an the consumer's existing component~~secomponent~~ database;

determining erroneous billing item rates in the telecommunication bills by comparing the billing item rates in the telecommunication bills to rate data representative of rates that should have been charged to the consumer~~stored in a rate database~~;

determining erroneous billing item quantities in the telecommunications bills by comparing the billing item quantities in the telecommunication bills to the consumer's quantity data~~stored in a quantity database~~;

generating a billing dispute for the billing items based upon the non-existent billing item components, erroneous billing item rates and erroneous billing item quantities.

5. (amended) The method recited in claim 4 further comprising the steps of:

generating deprovision requests to the ~~venders~~ vendor based upon the non-existent billing item components.

6. (original) The method recited in claim 4 further comprising the steps of:

determining and correcting errors in the existing component database.

7. (original) The method recited in claim 4 further comprising the steps of:

identifying installed components from the existing component database that are not included as billing item components in the telecommunication bills; and

accruing the un-included installed components.

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8. (original) The method recited in claim 4 wherein the quantity database contains component usage and component configuration data.

9. (amended) A system for analyzing billing items in telecommunications bills received by a consumer from a vendor, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

a an existing component database containing data identifying the consumer's existing components;

a rate database containing data identifying billing rates for the existing components;

a quantity database containing data identifying quantities of the existing components;

means for receiving and extracting data corresponding to billing item components, billing item rates and billing item quantities from the telecommunication bills;

means for comparing the billing item components in the telecommunication bills to the existing component database to identify non-existent billing item components in the telecommunication bills;

means for comparing the billing item rates in the telecommunication bills to the rate database to determine erroneous billing item rates in the telecommunication bills;

means for comparing the billing item quantities in the telecommunication bills to the quantity database to determine erroneous billing item quantities in the telecommunications bills;

means for disputing the billing items based upon the non-existent billing item components, erroneous billing item rates and erroneous billing item quantities.

10. (amended) The system recited in claim 9 further comprising:

means for generating deprovision requests to the ~~vendors~~ vendor based upon the non-existent billing item components.

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11. (original) The system recited in claim 9 further comprising:

means for determining and correcting errors in the existing component database.

12. (original) The system recited in claim 9 further comprising:

means for identifying installed components from the existing component database that are not included as billing item components in the telecommunication bills; and

means for accruing the un-included installed components in an accounting system of the consumer.

13. (original) The system recited in claim 9 wherein the quantity database contains component usage and component configuration data.